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A Report That Kelley Called for a Break-In

Washington

FBI Director Clarence Kelley requested authorization from Washington headquarters for at least one break-in while serving as special agent in charge of the Birmingham, Ala., field office in the late 1950s, the Washington Star reported yesterday.

At the time of the request, the Star quoted a source as saying, Kelley was "wholeheartedly in favor" of break-ins as an investigative technique in intelligence investigations.

Kelley did not deny the break-in story, but said he could not recall any such move while he was in charge of the Birmingham office.

The Star did not say what the alleged break-in might have involved, but noted that the FBI initiated its controversial Cointelpro (counterintelligence) operation in 1956, a year before Kelley took over in Birmingham.

The FBI was also active against the Ku Klux Klan during that period.

The Star said its source formerly held a high position in the bureau. Kelley reportedly sent the request for authorization to Washington, apparently a recommendation from the agent heading the investigation.

"He was a traditionalist," the source said. "He never objected to those techniques when he was a SAC."

Canadian's visit

Reuter-Tanjug

Canadian Foreign Minister Allan MacEachen arrived here yesterday for a two-day visit.